



### IMPORTANT DATES

#### South Carolina Teacher Expo

June 1, 2009

#### PPS Summer Conference and Summer Leadership

June 22 - 24, 2009 Kingston Plantation Myrtle Beach

### FROM THE DESK OF...

**DAVID RAWLINSON,**  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF  
SPECIAL PROJECTS



"Do what you can, where you are, with what you have." Theodore Roosevelt



## Estill Middle School on the Move

### Estill Middle School

Estill, a small, rural town in Hampton County, has a lot to celebrate. Estill Middle School is quickly becoming a shining example of what is right with public education – a source of pride because of the school's recent accomplishments.

The middle school received a TAP Value Added Rating of 5, which is the highest a TAP school can receive. In addition to this great news, the middle school also boasts that the Palmetto Priority Schools presented them with an award for "Meeting Expected

Progress." Out of the 10 middle level Palmetto Priority Schools, Estill Middle is the only middle school to make this accomplishment. "This is the first time in three years that we have had an increase," states Julia Lee, the principal. It may not seem like much to some but the gain shows that the hard work which was done is paying off.

The school will continue to implement TAP and the FSRP and look for continued student achievement.

### Congratulations Estill Middle!!



## Estill High School: Where our Students Enter to Learn and Depart to Serve

At Estill High School we are still in the "change process." We are trying to make sure that we run and conduct our school as a place of business. Estill High School wants to share a few things that have been going well in their school.

Making AYP (adequate yearly progress) this past year was a very important step for Estill High School. The faculty, staff, students, and parents understand that hard work, dedication, perseverance, and commitment pay off.

This 2008–09 school year they received Title Five funding for the first time in over eight years. This was possible because of the diligence of hard working staff

members who focused on data accuracy and monitoring to ensure compliance.

Estill High School's SC GEAR UP Program, in conjunction with Ms. Lula Brown and the Estill High School Guidance Department, will present the first ever female retreat. The retreat will be targeting all female students, and will be held at USC Salkehatchie in Allendale, SC. The young ladies will participate in a day with various break-out sessions, motivational speakers, inspirational testimonials, and character development activities.

Our Culinary Arts Program has received four mini grants for the

2008–09 academic school year in support of their program.

These are fully funded projects:

### Title of the Projects and the Amounts

- Can Culinary Arts Catering Be Educational and Fun? \$568
- Cake Decorating Dream \$500
- Can a Mixer Lead to Selling Cakes Prepared by Students? \$500
- Wanted Dead or Alive: Kitchen Equipment and Tools \$500

## Johnson Middle School Students Celebrate at CiCi's

Forty-one students at Johnson Middle School in Timmonsville enjoyed lunch at CiCi's Pizza in Florence on January 20, 2009. Students who scored 70 or above on Benchmark 2 of MAP were invited to attend the feast. The benchmark tests are administered quarterly in ELA, science, social studies, and math to

assess student progress. The Benchmark results were used this year to measure progress towards meeting the goals outlined in the school's Focused School Renewal Plan. The outing was made possible because of the generosity of business partner Bobby Jolley and the Boys and Girls Club of Timmonsville. Mr. Jolly was also a chaperone for the outing. Plans are being made to take students who score 70 or above on Benchmark 3 to the movies and out to lunch.



## Heyward Gibbes Middle School

*What do you get when you combine a bountiful portion of collaboration, a strong dose of vertical articulation, a smothering of self-confidence and a healthy portion of friendship? You get students who are ready to pass the PASS writing test. Just ask Claudia Brooks and Regina E. Williams, 7<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade English/Language Arts teachers at Heyward Gibbes Middle School in Columbia, South Carolina.*

The teachers have a friendship that allows them to spend time together on the weekends and talk on the telephone at night. Unlike other chit-chat conversations, these conversations are often the springboard for authentic instructional strategies that motivate middle school students.

During one conversation, the idea for the one-three-one

graphic organizer was conceived. Each teacher uses the organizer in its basic format but tweaks it for her specific grade level. Then during another conversation, the idea of peer tutoring was born. To further enhance the dynamics of peer tutoring, Ms. Brooks, the seventh-grade teacher decided to use gender-based grouping. The surprising element of this compelling event was that the teachers thought the seventh-grade students would tutor the sixth-grade students on the use of the organizer as a prewriting strategy. They also thought that the sixth-grade students would compliantly listen to their tutors. Not so! Because the two teachers spoke the same

language of the state standards and had the same high expectations, the students involved themselves in conversations that resulted in generating new writing ideas, constructing written responses from the graphic organizers, planning for their next writing assignments, critiquing each other's work, assessing the use of each domain of writing, and monitoring each other's knowledge during the conversations. The results were phenomenal as the dimensions of socializing intelligence unfolded. The students were full of pride as their knowledge was confirmed. The teachers were pleased to know that their instruction had not landed upon deaf ears, and the administrators were uplifted to see how collaboration and vertical articulation resulted in self-confident students who were ready to take on the writing portion of PASS.

Benjamin Bloom, the educational psychologist, would truly be proud of these two educators and friends.



# Ridgeland Middle School



**Mr. Ranell Williams, Jr., *Principal***  
**Dr. Delacy Sanford, *Superintendent***

The Ridgeland Middle School Community in Jasper County has experienced some exciting events this semester. We started the New Year off with STAR Academy "Bridging" Ceremony on January 21. Twenty-two of the twenty-four students crossed over from the eighth grade to the ninth grade. Parents were there to drape their children with the STAR emblem red uniform shirt. It was an exciting event for the staff members, parents, and students.

Also on January 22, Ridgeland Middle had their first Family Science Night. Parents came with their children to try their hand at some experiments after learning the steps in the Scientific Method. After completing activities at the various stations, all participants reconvened in the media center for door prizes and a pizza party. Many students won materials to help them with their Science Fair Projects, and the parents learned how they could help their students succeed in science.

During the month of February, the school community celebrated Black History Month with a special program filled with performances from many talented students and staff members. Student groups sang, acted out skits, and performed praise dances. There also was a special appearance by the Gifted and Talented African Drum group led by our teacher of the year, Mrs. Christine Walker. A good time was had by all as this gave our students an opportunity to showcase their many talents.

On March 5, we held a Family Literacy celebration. Students read poems and sang songs about the gift of reading. English/Language Arts teachers demonstrated activities used in the classroom to help their students improve their reading skills. The evening came to a close with some tips to help our students to prepare for the first portion of the PASS exam.

Parents were encouraged to make sure their students were well rested and had a good breakfast before this important assessment. Many participants went home that evening with some special door prizes—new books to read together as a family.

Lastly, the staff members of RMS had the opportunity to participate in various professional development activities.

- ◆ In January, we had training on the following topics: How to Use the Promethean Board, Balanced Literacy, Open Book, Healthy School Climate, and Data Analysis.
- ◆ During the month of February, we had the following: Teaching Struggling Students, Single Gender, and all ELA teachers attended the SC International Reading Association conference.
- ◆ In the month of March, staff members had the following professional development opportunities: Using Data for Instruction, How to Use the Promethean Board, Healthy School Climate, Teaching Struggling Math Students, and Single Gender.

Great things are happening at Ridgeland Middle School in Jasper County!





## Message from the Director of the Palmetto Priority Schools

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

The Office of Special Projects/Palmetto Priority Schools (PPS) collaboration efforts continue to thrive. Our liaisons in the field and our education associates in the office report unsurpassed effort by schools, school leaders, and district administrations to improve academic performance in all schools. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge academic achievement increases in direct proportion to positive ratings on critical school climate issues such as, school safety, teacher and student attendance, and local autonomy.

I am excited to report six of our schools were recognized by Dr. Jim Rex, State Superintendent of Education, at our March 17, 2009, Collaboration Meeting for meeting "Expected Progress" according to the 2008 Report Card. The six schools were Estill High and Estill Middle, Burke High, R.B Stall High, C.A. Johnson High, and Eau Claire High. In addition, Eau Claire and Estill High were recognized for making AYP defined by the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) federal legislation.

We are entering the most crucial time of the school year. I want to encourage you to remain vigilant as you continue to work to prepare students for our first administration of PASS and all other year-end test administrations. We all know tests are only one measure of how well our schools are doing. However, we cannot ignore the fact that they are an integral part of our state and federal accountability system.

Finally, please permit me to once again invite you to our summer conference being held as an institute-within-an-institute at the Summer Leadership Institute in Myrtle Beach. This conference is being sponsored jointly with the South Carolina Association of School Administrators and the South Carolina Department of Education. Dr. Rex will deliver an address to the PPS group at 12:30 on Wednesday, June 24, 2009. In addition, several PPS schools and PPS staff will hold breakout sessions on "best practices" found in our PPS schools.

Finally, thanks for all you do, and I strongly encourage each of you to join us for our summer conference

Respectfully,



David Rawlinson  
Office of Special Projects  
Palmetto Priority Schools

## Whitlock Junior High School

After the analysis of fall MAP scores, it was determined that literal comprehension was the students' greatest weakness at Whitlock; so this year, the faculty made an integrated effort to focus on literal comprehension. In order to narrow the focus, a benchmark was given to determine the isolated area in which the students seemed to be struggling. The benchmark results showed central ideas and relevant details as the components under literal comprehension that needed to be strengthened. Given the fact that reading and writing go hand in hand, the teachers have participated in professional development sessions in which they have learned reading and writing strategies to address the students' needs with literal comprehension. The students were taught the strategies in all their classrooms which proved to be an excellent way to reinforce the new learning. Not only did teachers get involved with the strategy, the administration at Whitlock also participated. During morning announcements, the principal, Mr. Charles Redmond, would provide reminders, questions, and quotes relating to the strategy being taught. If the students were participating in an assembly, they were asked questions relating to the central idea and relevant details. Every way the students turned, they encountered questions to probe their thinking on the central idea and relevant details of a situation.

The united effort by the faculty, staff, and students at Whitlock paid off. After analyzing pre- and post-test data, all Warriors had something to smile about.

Over 77 percent of the students had mastered the skill, which was a 32 percent increase from the pre-test. All involved were pleased with the results, and the faculty is confident that strengthening this one skill will have a positive impact in increasing overall student achievement.

Warrior Pride Cannot Be Denied!!



# A Glance at the Low Country: The Charleston County School District

## North Charleston Gets Mobile Parenting Van

By Brooks P. Moore – PPSL

North Charleston High School has obtained a KIA mobile van that will be used as part of their parenting outreach program. KIA Motors of North Charleston has donated the van that will travel the North Charleston High attendance area providing parents with vital information about their child's school.

Dr. Helen Frazier, parenting coordinator at North Charleston High, along with Dr. Fred Moore, Jr., principal at North Charleston, have already put the van to work. One of North Charleston's goals is to increase parental involvement and support. According to Dr. Frazier and Dr. Moore, the van will serve as a vital link in helping to connect the school and home. The local radio stations and printed media let parents know when the van will visit their community. Parents not only receive academic information but also receive various brochures about health issues, guidance, extra curricula activities, athletics, and other matters relating to their child's school.

Behind the van you will find a large cooking grill. Parents are

treated to hot dogs, hamburgers, and other treats. I-TEC a business partner, is donating the food. After the van returns, parent comments and concerns are reviewed and action is taken to make sure they are addressed and assigned to the proper persons. Workshops are planned to address those areas that parents feel will help them become better parents.

According to Dr. Frazier and Dr. Moore, by going directly into the community, more parents have an opportunity to communicate with the school and stay informed about school events. Dr. Fraizer has plans to enhance the program by inviting school board members and district level administrators to get on board and visit the communities as passengers and messengers. The parent outreach program is a positive and productive means of taking the school to the community and to link the school and home so all children can reach their fullest academic and social potential.

## Burke Middle School

Burke Middle School is partnering with YES Carolina, Youth Entrepreneurship program, this summer. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about the development of a business and the processes necessary to ensure its success. The mission of this organization is to teach entrepreneurship to young South Carolinians of all socio-economic backgrounds to enhance their economic productivity by improving their business, academic, and life skills.

Students will spend three weeks this summer engaged in a curriculum provided through the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE). The students will build skills and unlock all types of creativity that will be beneficial to them for a lifetime. In this ever changing global economy, it is imperative for our students to know how to market their talents as a resource that will provide them with financial support and communicational savvy.

Burke Middle's students are very excited.

## Burke High School

Burke High has launched an inaugural mentor program to give students exposure to the exciting field of television production. Partnering with the Lifetime hit series "Army Wives" and the South Carolina Film Commission, students will be paired with production crew members from the series to create opportunities for professional development and personal growth.

The mentor matches eleven Burke High School seniors and juniors interested in the entertainment field with "Army Wives" crew members for exposure to the disciplines and fundamentals of television production. Mentors participating in the program represent many of the specialties for television production including directing, casting, construction, electrical, wardrobe, accounting, sound, production management, catering, medic, and—unique to "Army Wives"—military consultant.

Mentors will provide a forum for students to ask questions about their field, learn about real-world issues and challenges, and receive advice for achieving life goals. Students will meet personally with their mentor throughout the school year and have the opportunity to watch their mentors at work on the set. Those participating in the mentorship will receive a certificate of completion at the end of the program.

## Stall High School—Tall Senior Scores Perfect 800 on Reading Section of SAT

Wesley Oliver was recently commended by The National Merit Scholarship Corporation for his exceptional academic promise. Wesley scored a perfect 800 on the reading section of the SAT.

Wesley is an 18-year-old senior at Stall High School in North Charleston. He credits his parents and teachers for helping to motivate him as he strives to reach his fullest academic potential. Wesley was inspired at an early age to become a life-long reader. Both of his parents are avid readers, and his sister is an elementary school teacher in Summerville, S.C. Wesley enjoys reading historical books and biographies of famous historical figures.

Wesley plans to attend the College of Charleston in the fall and major in history and political science. After completing his undergraduate

degree, he plans to be a history teacher or attend law school.

His advice to other high school students who want to Max the SAT reading section is read often. When you read, make sure you define the new words and learn to put them into context. Good readers become great readers by reading. Good readers can become good writers.

During his free time Wesley likes to participate as a member of a rowing team. Congratulations to a young man who has a tremendous future ahead of him. He is an inspiration to all young people who want to become better readers and who want to truly make reading a life-long skill and tool for growth and relaxation.

## A Glance at the Richland District 1 (cont.)

### Alcorn Middle School Dr. Baron Davis, Principal

The 20<sup>th</sup> National African American Read-In was held February 1-28, 2009. It is an event sponsored by the Black Caucus of National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) and NCTE. The Extended Day Program sponsored a read-in on Tuesday, February 10, 2009. Alcorn Middle School joined other schools, churches, libraries, bookstores, and community and professional organizations to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month by hosting and coordinating Read-Ins in their communities.

The Extended Day Program also sponsored its annual Literacy Café on December 16, 2008, through the English Language Arts Classes. The topic for this year's writing gave students a choice between a biography or an autobiography. Students shared their writings while dining in a café setting. The menu included muffins, drinks, and sub-sandwiches. The Literacy Café is a celebration of writing, listening, talking, and sharing.

The Alcorn Family collected and donated 464 pounds of food to The Harvest Hope Food Bank during the winter holidays. The school also sponsored a "clothes closet," seeking donations of coats and jackets to make sure that our students were warm during the cold winter months.

### ALCORN MIDDLE SCHOOL ATTACKS "BULLYING" HEAD ON...

The Bully by Paul Langan was the book that the organizers of Alcorn Middle School's "Anti-Bullying" Rally used to illustrate what is felt when a person is bullied for an extended period of time. Event organizer and South Carolina Reading Initiative Literacy Coach, Roslyn S. Bellinger, skillfully used the novel to spark dialogue, to teach comprehension strategies, to have adults modeling reading, and to demonstrate to students the long term effects of bullying. The school-wide program culminated with famed comedian Akintunde serving as keynote speaker. Akintunde also featured Alcorn in his official publication, *MAN 2 MAN & SISTER 2 SISTER*. As promised by Townsend Press, all students received their boxed set of 8 more *Bluford Series* novels to have for their home libraries. Principal Dr. Baron Davis was thrilled to have Alcorn share this exciting Bullying Prevention Program with Richland District One's superintendent, Dr. Percy Mack, and his cabinet.



### Black History Celebration at W.A. Perry Middle School

Dancing, Mozart, oratory, and heroes commemorated the celebration of Black History Month at W.A. Perry Middle School. In addition, Dr. Percy Mack, Richland One superintendent, delivered a rousing keynote speech.

The Perry dance classes under the direction of Mrs. LaQuannia Lewis performed a montage of Alvin Ailey dances as a tribute to Mr. Ailey who formed the first African American dance company. A recording of Alvin Ailey describing his dances highlighted the dance sequences.

The Perry orchestra performed Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* to delight the audience. In addition the Perry chorus presented a call to personal heroism for each student by singing the song, "Everyone Needs a Hero." Both groups were under the leadership of Mrs. Cheryl Munro.

The winners of Perry's Black History Month Oratorical Contest presented their poems.

Drama teacher, Mrs. Carolyn Thompson, coached the students with the help of former Richland One School Board member, Mr. King Jeffcoat. The winners, determined by an outside team of judges, included 8th Grade—Tatiana Jackson, 7th Grade—Kareem Jones, and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade—Roderick Haynes, Jr.

Dr. Percy Mack presented a spirited speech about the history of African Americans and our call to service under President Barack Obama. He encouraged all students to strive to personal excellence and "keep their record clean" in order to reach great heights just as President Obama did.

The morning proclaiming African American heroes ended with a "Parade of Cultures" including the many international teachers who work at W.A. Perry. This notable event honored both talent and history!





# A Glance at what is going on at Mount Pleasant Middle and Eau Claire High School

## Mount Pleasant Middle School

It has been fast and furious at Mt. Pleasant Middle School (MPMS) this year. Outstanding staff development opportunities have been provided for staff members and new programs are in place to also assist in improving student achievement.

Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS) has been a focus for the MPMS staff. Working as a team, the teachers have developed a matrix of expected behaviors and have worked to teach these behaviors to the students. Next year MPMS will be consolidating with Dennis Middle School in a new building in Lee County. The two staffs are already planning together so that the PBIS program can have a seamless transition into the new Lee Central Middle School.

The STAR Academy has been a blessing for fifteen young people in Lee County. It is providing an opportunity for them to graduate from high school in three years. These students have overcome many obstacles, accepted the challenge to accelerate, and look forward to being tenth graders at Lee Central High School next year.

The teachers have made studying data and instruction a focus for themselves this year in order to help accelerate all students.

Professional development has been provided in the area of MAP data and the utilization of DesCartes to drive instruction. They have studied and implemented such strategies as graphics, cooperative learning, the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy, and technology in the classroom.

We are pleased to announce that the principal of MPMS, Mrs. Deitra Johnson, has been named the principal of the new middle school. Her instructional leadership skills as well as her human resources skills will be an asset as the new staff bonds and grows to become a new, vital learning community.



## Eau Claire High School

### Eau Claire High School's Interact Club

Eau Claire High School's Interact Club recently sponsored a talent show and silent auction to raise money for Carolina Boys Home and Children in Iraq. The Interact Club in cooperation with the Columbia Rotary Club sponsors this event annually to provide community service and raise funds. This year the club raised over \$700 for these two charities.

Through the Interact Club members learn the importance of service activities, develop leadership skills, gain personal integrity, demonstrate helpfulness and respect for others, and advance international understanding and goodwill. Every Saturday, the Interact students volunteer to help the homeless by distributing food, clothes, and other items. They have also participated in taking care of the elderly at the Walters Retirement Home in the Eau Claire community, prepared gift baskets for the elderly, and served at Ronald McDonald House.

Most students do not realize the vice that they have in their community and environment. Being a true Shamrock is more than just being a student. It is being a volunteer, a leader, and having pride in yourself and your community. Don't let your community make you—make your community.



## Our Priority Schools

Allendale-Fairfax Middle School  
Allendale-Fairfax High School  
(Allendale County)

Whale Branch Elementary  
(Beaufort County)

Burke Middle/High School  
Morningside Middle School  
North Charleston High School  
R.B. Stall High School  
(Charleston County)

Scott's Brach Middle School  
(Clarington 1)

Colleton Middle School  
(Colleton County)

J V Martin Jr. High  
(Dillon District 2)

Fairfield Middle School  
(Fairfield County)

Ronald E. McNair Middle School  
Lake City Elementary School  
(Florence District 3)

Brockington Elementary School  
Johnson Middle School  
(Florence District 4)

Carolina High Academy  
Lakeview Middle School  
(Greenville)

Estill Middle School  
Estill High School  
(Hampton District 2)

Hardeeville Middle School  
Ridgeland Middle School  
(Jasper County)

Dennis Intermediate School  
Lower Lee Elementary School  
Mt. Pleasant Middle School  
(Lee County)

Creek Bridge Middle School  
(Marion District 7)

Bleinheim Elementary/Middle School  
Bennettsville Middle School  
(Marlboro County)

Alcorn Middle School  
C.A. Johnson High School  
Eau Claire High School  
Gibbes Middle School  
W.A. Perry Middle School  
W.G. Sanders Middle School  
(Richland District 1)

Cleveland Elementary  
Whitlock Jr. High School  
(Spartanburg District 7)

Mayewood Middle School  
(Sumter District 2)

Chestnut Oaks Middle School  
(Sumter District 17)

## More Palmetto Priority Schools at a Glance

### Allendale Fairfax Middle School

Allendale-Fairfax Middle School saw significant student gains at all grade levels based on fall to winter MAP testing data. Two hundred thirty students gained five or more points; ninety-four students gained at least ten points; and seventy-four students made a proficient and/or advanced in at least one area. These results were reviewed by the local Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) representative who sent a congratulatory note to the school's principal, Brian Newsome, praising him for these "significant gains." The school anticipates the same gains will be achieved and surpassed when spring testing takes place as well as PASS results. We are very proud of our Allendale Tigers!



### C.A. Johnson Preparatory Academy

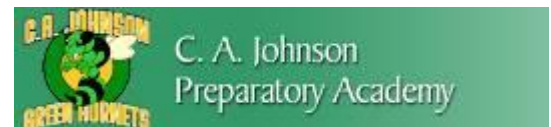
Richland One is the first school district in Columbia and thus C.A. Johnson Preparatory Academy is the first school in Columbia to be awarded a \$200,000 grant from the AT&T Foundation to create a Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) Program. JAG is a highly successful national drop-out prevention program with a 95 percent retention rate and multiple benefits. Its primary focus is to help reduce high school dropout rates by teaching at-risk students how to get and retain jobs.

The primary objectives of a JAG Model program are

- Target the 'right' young people for services.
- Keep program participants in school through graduation or completion of a GED.
- Extend program services to participants for 12 months after graduation or completion of a GED.
- Assist graduates or completers in pursuit of a postsecondary education and/or an entry-level job that leads to a career.
- Deliver services to non-graduates and non-completers during the 12-month follow-up period to attain a GED certificate or a high school diploma.

The ultimate objective of the JAG Model is to provide participants with classroom and work-based learning experiences that result in a quality job leading to a career after graduation or completion of a GED.

The primary process objective is to keep participants in high school through graduation during the in-school phase of the program and to improve the rate of success in achieving their education and career goals. The high performance outcomes achieved consistently by JAG state organizations and local affiliates are accomplished through a comprehensive set of services.





## Recruitment and the PPS Team

Students need effective teachers in order to achieve. Research suggests that recruiting and retaining qualified, talented teachers is an important way to close the achievement gap. In practice, the recruitment and retention of teachers remains a critical factor, which has direct impact on student achievement, especially in low-performing schools. It is for this exact reason, the Palmetto Priority Schools team dedicates efforts to this area of support for all of our schools. We offer on-going recruitment nationally and locally for teachers and administrators in the Palmetto Priority Schools (PPS). In addition, we provide opportunities for districts and schools to personally recruit teachers through spring recruitment fairs. This year we will hold recruitment opportunities throughout the state. We will also be on-site to assist schools and districts as needed during the annual CERRA Teacher Expo, June 1, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. in Columbia.

Statistics show that approximately one-quarter of all beginning teachers leave the profession in the first five years, and those rates climb to 50 percent in high-poverty areas (National Center for Education Statistics). Teacher retention becomes another effort in which we are working to provide more assistance for the upcoming school year.



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**“Make no mistake, there are some real heroes working in these 16 schools. I know because I have met some of them, and we’re going to be counting on them in the months and years ahead.”**

*Dr. Jim Rex*  
State  
Superintendent  
of  
Education

## PPS Summer Conference

Palmetto Priority Schools (PPS) in the Office of Special Projects is partnering with the South Carolina Association of School Administrators (SCASA) to hold its Summer Conference. The Summer Leadership Institute of SCASA will be held in Myrtle Beach from June 21-26, 2009, at Kingston Plantation. The PPS section of the conference will occur Monday, June 22, until Wednesday, June 23. Breakout sessions will be specifically designed for the Palmetto Priority Schools. Review additional information on the Web at [www.scasa.org](http://www.scasa.org)

**Produced and Edited by:**

**The Office of Special Projects/Palmetto Priority Schools**

*David Rawlinson, Director, and the PPS Staff*



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